who will be strong enough before long to question you. Please, my dear Sir, be a little more responsible in your methods.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*): Sir, you address the Chair.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Will I ever address you, Sir. I look at you, because of your position.

Mr. President: Order, order, in the House, Subject matter—Subject matter.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Subject matter, Sir? in the light-hearted talk of the first Minister.....

Mr. President: Order in the House, please. The Hon'ble Member must be aware that that matter is closed. He will proceed on with the subject matter of the motion.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: The subject matter of the motion is to reduce the demand.

Mr. President: If you are opposing the motion, you may speak.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I am making these observations, which according to me, Sir, are most relevant for the argument I advance to throw out this demand.

Mr. President: Some of which, according to me, are irrelevant.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: The Chair has certainly a right to give a directive.

Mr. President: I did not ask the Hon'ble Member to stop, but to continue his speech.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, I was making these observations that this sort of irresponsible statements from responsible corners, corners which we consider to be responsible, but evidence has shown to be otherwise. Continuing my argument, my opposition is this: Rs. 12,000 had been provided in the Budget, that was opposed by the present Ministry, though not then occupying the role of ministers and their company, and it was thrown out. It is a restored amount, certified amount, which has got all its odium that they had been drawing from. Now Sir, I have no complaint about it; that is left to them. But, to draw the tax-payers' money and not to inform this House under the rules of procedure with regard to the financial aspect as provided in our Constitution Act placing of statement comes—the Ministers—the hungry Ministers—to be paid. There is no provision for the expenditure to be made. Now it would appear, Sir, to an unwary eye that this is all what you wanted. Rs. 12,000 had been provided for Rs. 9,000 is now asked for while working out the pay of the Hon'ble Ministers—unduly large numbers, which I am told is going to be raised to five. Now my submission Sir, is because of this flippant way of the Government in dealing with the taxpayers' money which is intended to be utilised for the amelioration of the condition of the villager in contra-distinction to the fattening and flying and other things of the already fat and well-fed individuals who have been making these to enrich themselves. That is the point of my opposition, Sir, I have stated the case of the tax-payers. I am completely indifferent on the matter. I oppose the demand.

Mr. President: The question is that Government be granted an additional sum of Rs. 9,260 under "16-1-Huzur Secretariat.—Salaries—Ministers".

Mr. President: Those who are in favour of the motion will say 'aye' and those who are against it will say 'no'.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: No.

Mr. President: I think the "ayes" have it.

Demand put and carried

58-16-1-Huzur Secretariat

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 15,400 under "16-1-Huzur Secretariat—T.A. of Ministers and their staff". The reasons are given in the Note to the Standing Finance Committee.

CUT MOTION No. 1

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*): I am not just now moving the cut but the points sought to be elicited by moving the cut may kindly be supplied otherwise than by moving the cut. Then if necessary I would move the cut.

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Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The amount of T.A. drawn by the Ministers is :

Minister for Food and Education	Rs.	924— 0—0
His staff	,,	283— 6—0
Minister for Revenue	,,	1,228 - 8—0
His staff	,,	704—10—0
Minister for Public Health	,,	1,090—11—0
Arrear T.A. drawn by previous Ministers	,,	1,237— 2—0
Minister's staff	,,	565— 6—0
Minister for Public Works	,,	939—14—0
His staff	,,	215— 6—0
Development Minister Mr. Balakrishna Menon	,,	363— 3—0

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : That is under 2.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

His staff	Rs.	72— 3—0

This is exclusive of conveyance allowance of Rs. 100 per month.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : Similar details may be furnished with reference to the Minister and the staff for the trip to Delhi.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : For the trip to Delhi the bill has not yet come.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : Does this provision take in the prospective Delhi bill also ?

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes it is included.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : May I also get this information. What was the object of the Hon'ble Minister for Food and Education taking his two trips to Delhi? Although the bills are not ready, I should like to know the purpose.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*) : The first trip was to attend the Labour Ministers' Conference and the second one to conduct certain negotiations with the Negotiating Committee of the Indian Constituent Assembly.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : And with regard to the last portion of it—the negotiations—if they are not of a confidential nature—do the negotiations refer to the number of seats allottable to Cochin to represent our interests in the Constituent Assembly ?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*) : Yes; a statement had been given to the Press about the matter.

Mr. P Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : I want an answer if possible and permissible in this House

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*) : Several questions were dealt with by me regarding that trip and the question referred to by the Hon'ble Member was one of the several things.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : With reference to the conference that is mentioned which I have also read, have you succeeded in getting two seats ?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon (*Minister for Food and Education*) : The question has not yet been decided.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan (*Vadakkancheri*) : That is whether the number is one or two is not yet decided. With this beneficial information very kindly supplied, I move that this demand of Rs 15,400 under "16 (1) Huzur Secretariat—T.A. of Ministers and the Staff" be reduced by Rs. 1,000. I confine myself to the last portion of the purpose of the cut as shown in the Order Paper, that is, to urge upon the Government to reduce the expenditure on the Ministers' tours to the irreducible minimum. And putting that before the house or rather before the Ministerialist block and the Ministers and the Government, I have to urge these things. Now, Sir, an amount of Rs. 15,400 is sought. That is the subject matter of the demand. An additional demand necessarily suggests another demand and the other demand has already been made and sanctioned and that works out some figure as shown in the budget on pages 72 or 73—I don't exactly get the figure—it will be something proportionate to the amount provided *viz.*, Rs. 12,000. An additional sum of Rs. 15,400 is now wanted and that is the demand before the House. My point, which I want the Government to understand, is that by all means have it there, there is no use of complaining about a *fait accompli* but the point of the cut and the point I want to gain, if I succeed in gaining, is that the Government in their wisdom be pleased to reduce

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the amount of T.A. of Ministers to the irreducible minimum by going on only absolutely necessary flying trips, train trips and other trips, and also undertaking such trips—I am not concerned with the route that they take, earth, air or even water, I have no objection, you may choose your own route,—but let the exodus be for things which normal thinking—I stress the word normal thinking—would tell you is sure, if not sure, almost sure, of producing results. A little of thinking would have shown that one of the trips taken with regard to the two trips—no complaint at all, no complaint—I fully endorse these trips—but with regard to one item of work in one of the trips, *viz.*, the second, a little of hard thinking, intelligent thinking, would have told that number one is not going to develop into number two. We had at least the right, Sir, to expect by any known process to be definitely told that we are going to get number one, because much depends upon number one or two. If the representation of Cochin in the Constituent Assembly is only one, it is what we had yesterday and that alone. If it were two, Sir, certain results would have been very different, because the method of voting would not have been the presentation of four nomination papers by the same party of the same individual unless it is supposed that the whole of the wisdom of Cochin is all focussed here in this House and particularly in these benches, unless it is their claim, which I am afraid they will be making, there would have been gentlemen and even ladies of Cochin, enlightened children of Cochin prepared to file their nominations to be elected by the members of the Council, just to see, to try their chance of being voted for or voted against according to the question whether they are men of merit and daughters of merit or not, but in the setting of today in a House of 38 elected members or 48 non-official members, 29 are so cunningly and cleverly entrenched within barbed wires, no son or daughter of Cochin who has got an iota of commonsense would file a nomination paper, unless it be to register a protest against, a symbolic protest, which means what it means. Sir, I am on that trip. Trips of that sort and similar sorts may not be attempted hereafter, by the Ministers whether they be one or two or three or four, if there be numerical places like that. If they must have taken these trips, let them be reduced to a minimum, let them be confined to purposeful exodus and not for pleasure trips this side or that. Of course, it has got its own advantage, our sons and daughters in Cochin if they go to the north, they get contacted to eminent sons and daughters of the North not only of all-India fame, but of all-world fame. It is a matter on which money is worth spending, but the question of questions is whether the tax-payer of Cochin can afford to pay for this sort of trips which are 95 per cent personal and only 5 per cent official. Therefore, the point of the cut motion is that you be pleased, to be wise to see that unnecessary trips are not undertaken. Absolutely necessary trips according to them may be taken. In the language of the first Minister, you first concede then you begin consideration then you reach the stage of determination and later on action. Let that four-fold process be applied in the matter of the trips that you consider, at the outset, to be necessary and if in that process of consideration, the intelligent men like you should see whether after all, this is going to produce results, and drop it, if it is not, otherwise undertake it and try your best to produce results. Let it not be understood Sir, that the first minister in the second trip and on the particular topic mentioned here did not put forth his best. I know Sir, he had done his best. Unfortunately, results have not been produced. I would have been glad if it is only one member which is our right and not any man's pleading or the giving of any body, but if it were two, what had taken place here yesterday and which is going to continue is something which I do not wish to state now. There is a difference in choosing in one member and two members. Methods will change, results will be different. Therefore, to conclude, I submit that even the present day Government held by persons who had been very worried about the finances in the State—I am referring to the departments that are not transfeared in conjunction in the Cabinet meeting—let them make it a point to see that trips are reduced to a minimum, trips are undertaken, which at least 95 per cent are known to be producing resuls, others be eschewed. That is the purpose of my cut. I have moved it. If the Government is going to reply, I would like to be enlightened and if I have offended any hon'ble friends not only ministers but his associates, I will certainly make amends for them. Even of course, they do not benefit, they must have understood the purpose of the cut and the spirit in which it is moved. I am agreeable to withdraw if I am permitted, without waiting for a reply. If there is anything to be replied, after reply, I may be allowed to make corrections.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education)*: Government are anxious as any other members of this House or of the public, not to fritter away Government money for what the Hon'ble Member characterises as unnecessary trips. *(Hear. hear)*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: I have not been correctly understood

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Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food an Education):* I do not mean anything. Then Government also want to say that no unnecessary trip has been made by any officer of Government or any Minister at least this year, so far as I know.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Va akkancheri):* Good. The change between 1121 and 1122.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Regarding the trip to Delhi I would take this opportunity to inform this House that things have reached a stage in India to-day under which it is necessary for any progressive Government, to make contacts with personalities and officers in Delhi. The Hon'ble Member himself conceded that proposition. Very many things which could not be achieved by correspondence can be achieved by personal contacts.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is true.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* To refer to only a few of these things. There are instances where contacts made with the Government of India and the Government of Madras have achieved results which it would have been not possible if we only corresponded with these officers. To give only one instance, in my second trip to Delhi, I had occasion to take the case of petrol supply to Cochin and it was only 15 days before I met the Hon'ble Member concerned with the Government of India that a refusal had come for a request from this Government for an extra supply of petrol. But when matters were explained to him that the large mileage of roads in Cochin and the large traffic that we have then several essential requirements which this Government have, when these things were explained to the Government of India, the matter was appreciated and the Hon'ble Member would have heard before this time that my representations bore fruit and some substantial increase in the quota of petrol has been allowed to the Government of Cochin by the Government of India.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* We are glad to note it. Can you kindly give the quantity allowed?

Rao Bahadur T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Public Health):* 20,000 gallons for this quarter.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Then again the Hon'ble Minister for Public Health had occasion to go to Delhi and raised the question of getting back the Ram Mohan Palace and the medical equipments installed by the Military authorities. Correspondence was going on in this matter between this Government and the authorities there and no fruitful results were achieved; but on account of the exertions of the Hon'ble Minister for Public Health, I am again happy to announce to this House that it has been possible to get the equipments there for the use of this Government on what may be called a nominal price *(hear, hear)*. Again, the question of Telephone connections in Ernakulam was a matter which was long-pending between this Government and the Government of India. It was on account of the personal contacts made by me with certain authorities of the Government of India that it was possible to move the authorities and do something in that direction also. Sir, there are several instances like this and probably more trips will have to be made to Delhi.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Absolutely no objection.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* And therefore, when the Hon'ble Member said that these trips should be reduced to the irreduceable minimum, while accepting it I must say that the number of trips already made in this year could not have been reduced further because the Hon'ble Minister for Public Health made only one trip. How can it be reduced?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Arithmetically different.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* For matters to be done in Delhi, he cannot go to Madras and return. *(Laughter).*

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* He is not so foolish.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Let us not have this nervous train so much, so this relaxation. It is good for you, good for me and good for every one's life.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Not for me, though good for you.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* I have to make one point clear before this House. As is well known, we can go to Delhi by road and plane. I do not think that the Hon'ble Member will expect the Ministers of this Government or the officers to walk to Delhi or go by bulluck carts.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* I am sorry the debate has descended to that level. I am deliberately mis-understood.

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Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* I am sorry, then there is the question of either by train or plane. It will be revelation to this House to know that according to the present rates, it is cheaper for Government if officers go by plane and not by train.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* There is not much of a revelation in it.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Well therefore a trip by plane to Delhi will save a good deal of time to Delhi, also save a good deal of money for Government. I say it is cheaper.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* We accept it because we know it.

Mr. President : No interruption please.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Therefore, the House will know that the Ministers have been making only the irreducible number of trips to Delhi and the cheapest mode of travel alone is being resorted to—of course road travel excluded. Therefore, I must submit in all humility, before this House, that there is absolutely no case for any apprehension that Government money or the taxpayers' money is being frittered away by too many trips of too costly trips made either by officers or by the Ministers. My experience gained during the last two trips—and I am glad to submit that this has been the experience—and of my Hon'ble friend the Minisrer for Public Health also, that this Government has been too late in the field, these sort of contacts ought to have been made earlier in many matters. This Government could have gained a lot than what it has done to-day. Therefore, I would request the Hon'ble Member and other members of this House not to disabuse themselves of any misunderstanding in this matter.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* If there be any?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* It is absolutely necessary for Government to make contacts and if in making these contacts and if gaining something for Government if the Members of Government who make these contacts also, gained anything then, do not grudge it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Who ever grudges it? In spite of the most chosen words in that most rash reply, I already stated even without a reply, I would withdraw. But in the light of the reply why should I hesitate to withdraw. Therefore, I seek the leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn

Mr. President : The question before the House is that an additional sum of Rs. 15,400 be granted under "16-1-Huzur Secretariat—T.A. for Ministers and their staff".

Demand, put and carried

4. Condolence Motions (1) On the demise of Her Highness the late Valiamma Tampuran

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education):* Mr. President, Sir, *"This Council desires to express with due respect, its deep sorrow on the lamented demise of Her Highness the late Valiamma Tampuran and its sincere sympathy with His Highness the Maharaja and other members of the Ruling Family, in this their sad bereavement."*

In commending this motion to the acceptance of this House, I am sure the House will agree with me that it is the solemn duty of this House to give expression to our profound grief on the demise of Her Highness the late Valiamma Tampuran, and convey to His Highness the Maharaja and the members of the Ruling family, our heart-felt condolences and sympathy. The loss suffered by the demise of Her Highness on 21st Kumbham 1122 is an irrepairable one. The very simple and pious life which Her Highness has led in a manner characteristic of the member of the illustrious Ruling Family of Cochin, deserves to be regarded as an inspiring example to each and every one in Cochin and elsewhere. Born in 1038, Her Highness became the Valiamma Tampuran on 16th Edavam 1117 and ever since then, Her Highness took a very keen interest in the welfare of the Ruling family, as a result of which the Ruling Family prospered in every direction. I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. President : I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by the Hon'ble Minister for Food and Education on the demise of Her Highness Valiamma Tampuran. I commend the motion to the acceptance of the House.

Motion was passed, all Hon'ble Members standing

The House rose for lunch at 1-30 p. m. and re-assembled at 2-30 p. m. with the Hon'ble President M. R. Ry. L. M. Pylee Avl., M. A., B. L. in the Chair

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